Appl. No.09/942,628 Amdt. dated November 10, 2006 Reply to Office action of May 11, 2006 Atty. Docket No. AP1102US

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 19 and the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 23 with the following new paragraphs:

-- Therefore, in accordance with a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a broad bandwidth, high data rate communications system comprising a transmitter employing Inverse Fast Fourier Transform and a receiver employing Fast Fourier Transform.

the transmitter having means for dividing the bandwidth into a plurality of sub-bands each for a respective one of a corresponding plurality of sub-band signals, each of the sub-band signals being modulated with a respective portion of input data to be transmitted; and means for performing Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) upon the sub-band signals using, for each sub-band signal, a respective one of a plurality of different IFFTs, combining the transformed sub-band signals and transmitting the combined transformed signals to the receiver;

the receiver having means for receiving the combined transformed sub-band signals, separating the sub-band signals and performing forward Fast Fourier Transform thereupon individually using, for each transformed sub-band signal, a respective one of a plurality of different FFTs corresponding to those in the transmitter.

In accordance with a second aspect of the present invention there is provided a transmitter for use in a broad bandwidth, high data rate communications system employing Fast Fourier Transform, the transmitter having means for dividing the bandwidth into a plurality of sub-bands each for a respective one of a corresponding plurality of sub-band signals, each of the sub-band signals being modulated with a respective portion of input data to be transmitted; and means for performing Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) upon the sub-band signals using, for each sub-band signal, a respective one of a plurality of different IFFTs, combining the transformed sub-band signals and transmitting the combined transformed signals.

In accordance with a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a receiver for use in a broad bandwidth, high data rate communications system, in which transmitted signals are divided into sub-bands and converted using, for each sub-band signal, a respective one of a plurality of Inverse Fast Fourier Transforms (IFFTs), the receiver having:

means for receiving and separating a plurality of sub-band signals in said corresponding plurality of sub-bands;

and means for performing Fast Fourier Transform upon the received sub-band signals using, for each sub-band signal, a respective one of a plurality of different FFTs corresponding to the IFFTs.

Other aspects of the present invention concern methods corresponding to the first, second and third aspects, respectively. ~-